

## LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

### Circus Vegas

Friday August 1<sup>st</sup> 4:00pm and 7:30pm  
CN Centre  
614.9100 or [ticketmaster.ca](http://ticketmaster.ca)

### 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Prince George Exhibition

August 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> 10:00am to 10:00pm  
Exhibition Grounds  
Terri 563.4096 or [pgxterri@yahoo.ca](mailto:pgxterri@yahoo.ca)

### Peacekeepers Day Parade

Saturday August 9<sup>th</sup> 10:40am  
Royal Canadian Legion  
962.4684 for information

### Pamper Me Golf Tournament

Women Only Sunday August 17<sup>th</sup>  
Nesswood Golf Course  
Brenda 562.4433 for information

### Rivermania

200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Simon Fraser's Trip  
Sunday August 24<sup>th</sup> 10:00am  
Huble Homestead  
564.7033 for information

### PGARA 94X Hit To Pass

Saturday Sunday August 30<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>  
PGARA Speedway 6:00pm  
[pgara.ca](http://pgara.ca) for more information

### Must Love Dogs Speed Dating

Sunday August 31<sup>st</sup> 3:00pm  
Cottonwood Island Park  
612.4600 for more information

### Glenn Stewart Natural Horsemanship

Demo & Clinics September 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>  
Register early and save \$\$\$  
Call 649.8838 or 961.4079

## INSPIRING WISDOM FROM THE INFAMOUS AND THE CLEVER...

"Some things have to be believed to be seen" - *Ralph Hodgson*

"Good. Better. Best. Get your good better, get your better best" - *unknown*

"The highest reward for a person's toil is not what they get for it, but what they become by it" - *John Ruskin*

"Appreciation makes people feel more important than almost anything else you can give them" - *unknown*

"An optimist sees an opportunity in every calamity; a pessimist sees a calamity in every opportunity" - *Winston Churchill*

"Your incredible brain can take you from rags to riches, from loneliness to popularity, and from depression to happiness and joy - if you use it properly"  
- *Brian Tracy*

"Ninety percent of the friction of daily life is caused by the wrong tone of voice"  
- *Unknown*

## DO PETS SUFFER AFTER A FAMILY SEPARATION OR DIVORCE?

The short answer - absolutely! Both dogs and cats suffer when their family members argue or separate. Dogs are very social animals that form a bond with their family, becoming accustomed to routine and a way of life. They are creatures of habit that wake when we wake; eat when we eat; play when we play and sleep when we sleep.

When family members argue, parents and children, sibling rivalry or adult anger and talk of separation, the family dog or cat feels the adverse effect.

Adult actions when arguing often cause nervous behavior from dogs including destruction, barking, howling, digging and often soiling indoors. These are all expressions of canine anxiety. A dog's life becomes out of routine or chaotic leading up to, during and following separation and is expressed via anxiety.

Most older dogs find it a challenge to adapt to new routine and may go down hill quickly after having to cope with the upheaval of separation, especially if they suffer any type of health concerns. Sometimes separating parties will try to work out a visitation schedule for which their dog goes on an outing with the individual that he or she is no longer living with.

Experts highly recommend that in the case of visitation, especially with an older dog, it is the dog's health and best interest that separating parties need to focus on.

Going back and forth from home to visit the loved one they no longer live with causes even more stress and separation anxiety. If the dog lived in harmony with both adults, he or she is attached to them as a lone unit. Living without both guardians is depressing and getting dropped off for a short visit alone to see one guardian without the other is extremely distressing.

Couples usually know their pets best and it is their responsibility to decide together what is the healthiest choice for them. Experts suggest that the couple meet together to visit with their dog, if they are solid enough and able to manage their time together.

Alternatively, sharing pets between households rarely works as it often causes increased stress to the people and to the pets. Animals are devoted; they are comforting and reliable during trying times. A child might make a dog their best friend and confidant who they'll hug, cry and tell any secret to. Truly more than man's best friend... ☺

# Did You Know...?

## We celebrate 15 years in business!

This is our 15<sup>th</sup> year serving Prince George. Dr. Christine Murdoch opened her doors for business on September 1<sup>st</sup> 1993 and has continued to flourish and expand ever since. During her humble beginnings, she started as a mobile clinic and worked alone out of her call truck. Today Dr. Murdoch sports a small/large animal facility with the assistance of an accomplished associate doctor; an invitingly happy receptionist; two super-duper caring animal health technicians; a can-do-it-all veterinary assistant; a vivacious part time kennel attendant; an extremely passionate, animal loving office manager and wonderful summer students who come to the clinic to prosper. Congratulations to Dr. Murdoch, all past and present staff and to you, our clients, for enabling our success ☺

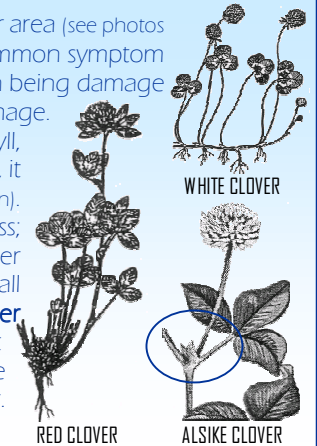
## Manager's Message...

We're already halfway through summer and it seems like only weeks ago that I was in my big winter boots, shovelling snow and griping for warmer weather ☺ I'm hopeful that due to the overly long winter we had and seemingly dreary summer we're having, that the skies might be warm and blue long into September or October. Overall, it's been a good season for horseback riding, except for the bugs of course! The ATV's and motorcyclists haven't seemed to slow down any and there's still plenty of mud for those 4x4 enthusiasts to slop around in. Have fun, warm weather is on the way ☺

### GOTHAM'S DARK KNIGHT INSPIRES...

For my little sister's 13<sup>th</sup> birthday we went to the movies. Oh what to see...? Wanted with Angelina Jolie or another Batman movie with the handsome Christian Bale? Being only 13 and all, Kayden hasn't seen a lot of Batman but the previews looked entertaining... ..and she was entertained! We all were. The technology united with endless action and the quiriness of each character made the movie a must see! I get the feeling that there will be another... Sadly, it's a shame that Heath Ledger won't be around to play the Joker. What a stellar job! Enjoy!

**What you might like to know about "Alsike Clover"** There are three main types of clover that grow in our area (see photos on the right). Hay and pastures with a large percentage of alsike clover are not recommended for horses. The most common symptom of Alsike toxicity is called photosensitization (reaction to light). Photosensitization is a secondary problem, the real concern being damage to the liver, which is not readily observed. Horses may live out their entire lives without showing symptoms of liver damage. The damage can be substantial, causing an inability to pick up phylloerythrin, a substance converted from chlorophyll, which is then carried by the blood and deposited in the skin cells. When the skin absorbs certain wavelengths of light, it reacts with the phylloerythrin, damaging the cell and causing inflammation (scabs and redness on skin lacking pigmentation). Symptoms may include inflammation of the muzzle, mouth and tongue, ears, eyes and eyelids; jaundice; nervousness; brown urine; digestive disorders and clay colored feces. Clover can be removed by applying herbicides. For further information [www.agf.gov.bc.ca/forage/alsike/alsike.htm](http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/forage/alsike/alsike.htm). Identifying the different clovers is challenging because they all appear to have similar features. The simplest method is to compare where the flower appears on the plant. **White clover** is low growing, has a white flower and the leaflets are found on separate stalks. **Red clover** usually has a hairy leaf that may contain a "V" shaped watermark. The flowers are often dark purple and at the end of the stems, which also have a leaflet. **Alsike clover** is usually pink and white in color. Depending on growing conditions, they can be slightly darker. **The flower stem originates from the same point off the same stalk as the separate leaf stems.**



## VISIT OUR RETAIL SECTION...

MediCal Royal Canin and Hill's Prescription diets  
Toothbrushes and Toothpaste for your dental needs  
Pill Poppers for regular administration of medication  
Leashes and Collars, Halti's and Seat Belts for your pet's safety  
Ear Cleaning Solution & Oatmeal Shampoo

Hypoallergenic Dog & Cat Treats no more itching☺  
Toe Nail Trimmers and Bloodstop powder for the oops trims  
Horse Dewormer Quest Plus, Quest, Equalan, Panacur & more  
Breathalyser water additive for bad breath  
Ectospray to stop those pesky bugs from biting

...IF WE DON'T HAVE WHAT YOU NEED - JUST ASK!

Closed: Tuesday July 1st ~ Monday August 4th ~ Monday September 1st ~ Monday October 13th

DR. CHRISTINE MURDOCH, Owner & Veterinarian  
DR. JODYNE GREEN, Associate Veterinarian  
KELLY-ANNE H, Office Manager  
NIKKI W, Administrative Assistant  
SHANNON C, Administrative Assistant

KELLY M, Registered Animal Health Technician  
KRISTY J, Registered Animal Health Technician  
KACIE H, Veterinary Assistant  
ALEXYS C, Kennel Attendant  
CHARLES R, Student Vet

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